

Appl. No. 10/036,032
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APP1313

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Listing of Claims:

Claims 1 (currently amended): A method for routing packets in of data from a source to a plurality of routers and receivers in a hierarchical network ~~comprising~~ wherein associated with each of said routers and receivers is associated with a plurality of hierarchical subnets comprising the steps of :

assigning each router in said network to one of a plurality of hierarchical levels ~~in one of the plurality of hierarchical subnets;~~

identifying a scope region for a subnet ~~bounded~~ wherein said scope region is composed of by one or more of the plurality both an upper and a lower of hierarchical levels in which to route said packets of data;

identifying a root identifier for the scope region as the hierarchical designated router directly above the scope region for the destination subnet;

forwarding packets of data from said source to the routers in the subnet wherein said packets of data contain data fields identifying the scope region and the root identifier of the scope region for the subnet.

Claim 2 (currently amended): The method of claim 1 further comprising the steps of:

identifying each router that sends packets of data to or from a router at a higher or lower level as a hierarchical designated router;

~~identifying the root identifier for the scope region as the hierarchical designated router directly above the scope region.~~

Claim 3 (original): The method of claim 2 further comprising the steps of:

identifying a binding point for providing a linkage between the scope region and a location for a receiver that has moved outside the scope region.

Claim 4 (previously amended): The method of claim 1 further comprising, prior to the

forwarding step, the steps of:

receiving a packet of data at a router in the network;

determining whether the router is within the scope region specified in the data field

identifying the scope region for the packet of data; and,

discarding the data packet if the router is outside the scope region.

Claims 5- 20 Cancelled.